UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/699,104	10/31/2003	Deia Salah-Eldin Bayoumi	ABDT-0576/B030280	1874

23377 7590 08/24/2005

WOODCOCK WASHBURN LLP
ONE LIBERTY PLACE, 46TH FLOOR
1650 MARKET STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

EXAMINER	
JARRETT, RYAN A	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2125	

DATE MAILED: 08/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/699,104	BAYOUMI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Ryan A. Jarrett	2125	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *01 August 2005*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *21-36* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *21-36* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 8/1/05 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 21-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schleiss et al. US 2003/0014500 in view of Montminy et al. US 5946210.

Regarding claims 21-23, 25, 28-31, 33, and 36, Schleiss et al. discloses:

21. A method for controlling at least one machine operable to manufacture products, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a store of transactional data relating to products (e.g., Fig. 1 #30-48);

providing a store of design data for products (e.g., Fig. 1 #36);

retrieving information from said store of transactional data (e.g., Fig. 1 #30, #38, #44, and #48, [0004]-[0006]);

producing a list of products that need to be manufactured based on said information retrieved from said stored of transactional data (e.g., Fig. 1 #30, #38, #44, and #48, [0004]-[0006]);

selecting from said list a particular product that needs to be manufactured by said at least one machine (e.g., Fig. 1 #30, #38, #44, and #48, [0004]-[0006]);

retrieving design data for said particular product from said store of design data (e.g., [0050]: "batch ID, recipe, number of batches required");

using said design data to generate control data for controlling said at least one machine to manufacture said particular product (e.g., [0050]);

transmitting said control data to said at least one machine (e.g., [0025], [0026], [0050]);

receiving real-time information concerning the manufacture of said particular [electrical device] *product* from said at least one machine (e.g., [0006], [0023], [0035], [0038], [0054]); and

updating said store of transactional data to reflect said received real-time information ([e.g., [0006], [0023], [0035], [0038], [0054]).

22. The method of claim 21 further comprising:

transmitting order information for products over a network (e.g., Fig. 1 #30); and updating said store of transactional data (e.g., Fig. 1 #38, [0023]) using said transmitted order information.

23. The method of claim 22 wherein said transmitting of said order information is over the Internet (e.g., Fig. 1 #28).

25. The method of claim 21, wherein said information retrieved from said store of transactional data includes data relating to scheduling of multiple processes for manufacturing said particular product (e.g., Fig. 1 #48).

28. The method of claim 21, wherein said real-time information received from said at least one machine includes completion of an intermediary component of said particular electrical device or the end of a process in the manufacture of said intermediary component ([e.g., [0006], [0023], [0035], [0038], [0054]).

29. The method of claim 21, wherein said at least one machine comprises a plurality of machines (e.g., [0025], [0026]).

30. A method for manufacturing an electrical device in a facility, said method comprising:

providing at least one machine operable to manufacture products (e.g., [0002], [0025], [0026]);

providing an order server (e.g., Fig. 1 #30) connected by a network to a data exchange server (e.g., Fig. 1 #52);

providing an enterprise resource planning (ERP) server for storing and providing access to transactional data relating to products (e.g., Fig. 1 #30-48), said ERP server being connected to said data exchange server (e.g., Fig. 1 #52);

providing a design data server for storing and providing access to design data or electrical devices (e.g., Fig. 1 #36);

receiving an order for a particular electrical device in said order server (e.g., Fig. 1 #30);

transmitting said order over said network to said data exchange server (e.g., Fig. 1 #30);

retrieving information from said ERP server (e.g., Fig. 1 #30, #38, #44, and #48, [0004]-[0006]);

determining from said retrieved information (e.g., Fig. 1 #30, #38, #44, and #48, [0004]-[0006]) whether said facility (e.g., Fig. 1 #14, #16, #22) can manufacture said particular product;

if said facility can manufacture said particular product, retrieving design data for said particular product from said design data server (e.g., [0050]: "batch ID, recipe, number of batches required");

using said design data to generate control data for controlling said at least one machine to manufacture said particular electrical device (e.g., [0050]); and

transmitting said control data to said at least one machine e.g., ([0025], [0026], [0050]).

31. The method of claim 30, wherein said transmitting of said order over said network includes transmitting said information over the Internet (e.g., Fig. 1 #28).

33. The method of claim 30, wherein said information retrieved from said ERP server includes data relating to scheduling of multiple processes for manufacturing said particular product (e.g., Fig. 1 #48).

36. The method of claim 30, further comprising:

receiving real-time information concerning the manufacture of said particular electrical device from said at least one machine (e.g., [0006], [0023], [0035], [0038], [0054]); and

updating said transactional data in said ERP server to reflect said received real-time information ([e.g., [0006], [0023], [0035], [0038], [0054]).

Regarding claims 24, 26, 27, 32, 34, and 35, Schleiss et al. discloses a process control system for manufacturing products. According to Schleiss et al., the process control system is like those used in "chemical, petroleum, or other processes" (e.g., [0002]).

Schleiss et al. does not specifically disclose that one of these "other processes" is a process for manufacturing electrical devices, or more specifically that the electrical devices are electrical transformers; wherein the information retrieved from said store of transactional data includes data relating to scheduling of winding, tank fabrication and processing; wherein the design data comprises electronic drawings.

However, it is well known that process control systems are commonly used to control the manufacture of electrical devices, such as semiconductor electronic devices. Moreover, Montminy discloses an automated system for configuring power converters, i.e. transformers; further comprising retrieving from a store of transactional data information relating to scheduling of winding, tank fabrication and processing (e.g., col. 2 line 32 – col. 5 line 64, col. 10 line 45 – col. 11 line 32); further comprising retrieving electronic drawing data from a store of design data (e.g., col. 2 lines 16-30).

Schleiss et al. and Montminy are analogous art since they both disclose transactional systems that are used to store information relating to the ordering, inventory, scheduling, designing, and manufacturing of products.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the system of Schleiss et al., which integrates transactional and real-time manufacturing information, to the transformer configuration system of Montminy et al. since Montminy et al. discloses that a transactional ordering system can be advantageously used by a customer to specify functional and physical requirements and selection criteria of a desired transformer. A transformer design and bill of materials generator in turn provides the user with a transformer configuration that

meets the customer's needs and is optimized with respect to the specified selection criteria. Also, the transformer generator provides the customer with power converter configurations in "real-time", and through access to component availability and manufacturing scheduling data, the converter generator provides the user with accurate configuration availability dates (e.g., col. 5 lines 20-45).

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ryan A. Jarrett whose telephone number is (571) 272-3742. The examiner can normally be reached on 10:00-6:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leo Picard can be reached on (571) 272-3749. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Ryan A. Jarrett
Examiner
Art Unit 2125

8/17/05

ALBERT W. PALADINI
PRIMARY EXAMINER